

LIVING LAB OF SUSTAINABLE AND ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDINGS ON CAMPUS

During our summer school, interdisciplinary teams of students get together to work on a design of a Living Lab for demonstrating sustainable and energy efficient buildings. The living lab will be an integrated infrastructure established on the campus of the Universities involved. Designs should represent a high-performance building so energy efficient that a decentralized renewable energy system can be expected to offset all the building's annual energy consumption. Teams are encouraged to find solutions that make use of new or existing technologies as well as other creative features to improve building operations and desirability. Effective designs for buildings systems incorporate careful considerations of structural performance, occupant comfort, environmental conditions, and regulatory constraints.

The teams attend the closing event, where they present their designs to a panel of expert jurors, compare their projects to those of other teams, and learn from presentations by thought leaders and collegiate peers. Designs are evaluated on how well they meet the nation's rapidly evolving demand for buildings that are innovative, cost-effective, quick to build, high quality, resilient, grid interactive, efficient, and locally responsive.